Promotion of tourism in Tamil Nadu

4313. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether festivals are being conducted by her Ministry in Tamil Nadu as a step to attract more tourists;

(b) if so, the names of the festivals organized in Tamil Nadu during the last three years; and

(c) the details of funds, if any, released to Tamil Nadu for conducting such festivals during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir. Organisation of fairs and festivals and events of National importance is the responsibility of the State Government concerned. However, Ministry of Tourism provides financial support for celebration of festivals on the basis of project proposals prioritized every year in consultation with State Governments/UT Administrations.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Tourism provided funds for the celebration of following festivals in the State of Tamil Nadu during the last three years:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Name of the Festival	Funds sanctioned
2002-03	Dance Festival at Mamallapuram	5.00
2003-04	Mahabalipuram Dance Festival	15.00
	Chithrai Festival	5.00
	Chettinad Festival	5.00
2004-05	Mamallapuram Dance Festival	15.00

Decline in foreign tourists due to terrorist activities

†4314. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of tourists has continuously declined in the recent past due to terrorist activities prevailing in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Government have appealed to certain countries to lift the restrictions imposed by them;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.